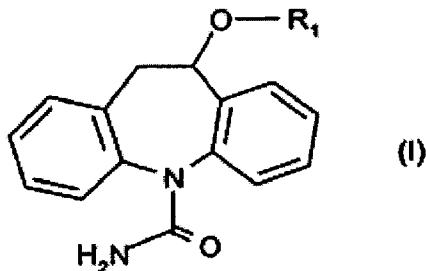


## Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of ~~affective disorders~~ a disorder selected from the group consisting of bipolar disorder, the psychotic states mania or schizophrenia, and excessive mood swings where behavioural stabilization is desired in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I

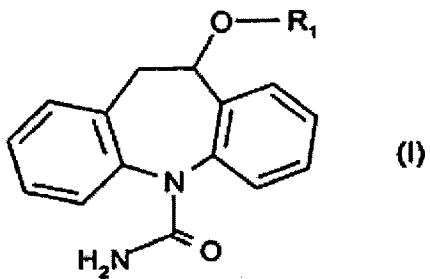


wherein  $\text{R}_1$  represents ~~hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl carbonyl~~.

2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, which comprises administering to said subject every 20 to 28 hours an amount between about 500 and about 3000 mg of a compound of formula I, wherein  $\text{R}_1$  represents ~~hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl carbonyl~~.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein every 20 to 28 hours an amount between 750 and 2500 mg of a compound of formula I is administered.
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the disorder is selected from severe acute mania and manic episodes of bipolar I disorder.
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein every 20 to 28 hours an amount between 1500 and 2500 mg of a compound of formula I is administered.

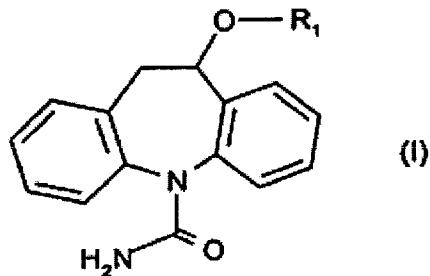
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the subject is a patient with a history of rapid cycling, with psychotic features, euphoric mania or dysphoric mania.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of manic symptoms in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I



wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents ~~hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl carbonyl~~.

8. (Currently amended) A method for the maintenance treatment of ~~affective disorders—a disorder selected from the group consisting of bipolar disorder, the psychotic states mania or schizophrenia, and excessive mood swings where behavioural stabilization is desired~~ in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said subject ~~every~~ a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I



wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents ~~hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl carbonyl~~.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, which comprises administering every 20 to 28 hours to said subject an amount between about 600 and about 2500 mg of a compound of formula I, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents ~~hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl carbonyl~~.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein every 20 to 28 hours an amount between 750 and 1250 mg of a compound of formula I is administered.

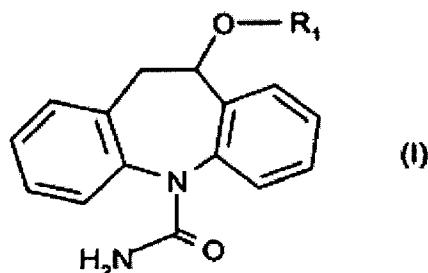
11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents hydrogenacetyl.

12. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 47, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents acetyl.

13-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) AThe method according to claim 1, wherein a combination is administered to said subject comprising

(a) a compound of formula I



wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl carbonyl, and

(b) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of lithium, divalproex, conventional antipsychotics, atypical antipsychotics, lamotrigine and antidepressants, in which the active ingredients are present in each case in free form or in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, and optionally at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (Currently amended) The methodecombination according to claim 17, wherein the combination comprisescomprising a compound of formula I, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogenacetyl, and olanzapine.

19. (Currently amended) The methodecombination according to claim 17, wherein the combination comprisescomprising a compound of formula I, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogenacetyl, and a compound selected from lithium or divalproex sodium.

20 and 21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the disorder is bipolar disorder.

23. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the disorder is schizophrenia.

24. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the disorder is excessive mood swings.

25. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents acetyl.